

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph [0001] on page 1 of the present Specification with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0001] The present application is ~~a continuation-in-part application of~~ related to U.S. Application Serial No. [[____]] 10/341,863, filed on [[____]] January 14, 2003 by Ngo et al., entitled "Shallow Trench Isolation For Strained Silicon Process" (~~Attorney Docket No. 39153/639/H0963~~) and assigned to the Assignee of the present application.